

Inside Wallops

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October is Disability Awareness Month

by Sean O'Keefe, NASA Administrator

This month, NASA is joining with other agencies and organizations throughout the United States in celebrating Disability Awareness Month. The theme for this year's observance of Disability Awareness Month is "You're Hired! Success Knows No Limitations."

Within the NASA family, we take great pride in outstanding employees like Denna Lambert, a contract specialist at the Goddard Space Flight Center, who is leading the efforts to ensure that NASA's Integrated Financial Management Program is accessible to employees like herself with visual disabilities. Denna, who currently serves on the Goddard Equal Opportunity Advisory Committee for People with

the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind's Career Day, and organizing NASA outreach events at the school.

As we move forward to implement the objectives of the Vision for Space Exploration, NASA is committed to a number of programs and initiatives that will enhance employment opportunities for outstanding employees like Denna and Chip.

We are partnering with the American Association for the Advancement of Science to develop Project ACCESS (Assisted Cognition in Community, Employment and Support Settings), a program to identify students with disabilities for summer internships and other opportunities at NASA. Through the NASA-Department of Defense Computer Electronic Accommodations Program, NASA is making a full range of electronic and information technology available to NASA employees with visual, hearing, dexterity and cognitive disabilities.

Our Goddard Space Flight Center teamed up with the National Federation of the Blind's new Research and Training Institute to sponsor "Rocket On," a summer science camp for blind students. And the Marshall Space Flight Center was selected "Employer of the Year" by the Huntsville Area Deaf Awareness Committee in recognition of its outstanding efforts to employ the deaf, and for providing mentoring experiences for deaf high school students.

As we seek out other opportunities to ensure that success knows no limitations for outstanding disabled employees, I encourage the NASA family to participate in the planned programs and activities at Headquarters, at your Centers, and within your communities.

It is my pleasure to join with you in celebrating Disability Awareness Month.



PAO Photo

Phil Eberspacher, Chief of the Sounding Rockets Program Office, works with students participating in the NFB "Rocket On!" camp.

Disabilities and works with Historically Black Colleges and Universities on disability issues, credits supportive fellow co-workers who've helped her develop alternative techniques to perform her job.

We're equally proud of Chip Dobbs, an industrial property management specialist in the Marshall Space Flight Center's Operations Directorate, who was named "Deaf Person of the Year" by the Huntsville Deaf Awareness Committee. This honor was given in recognition of Dobbs' service to the deaf community, including mentoring hearing impaired students in Marshall's education programs, representing NASA at

Wallops Shorts.....

In the News

Eastern Shore News

"NASA Wallops Completes Launches of 14 Rockets"

Eastern Shore News

"Space Flight Academy Suffers Funding Crunch"

The Daily Times

"Space Flight Academy Funding Crashes"

Eastern Shore News

"Ray Bass Proves a Busy Person is One Who Gets Job Done"

Eastern Shore Post

"Dr. Campbell Earns Astronautics Award"

Eastern Shore Post

"Wallops Scientist Finds Glacier Report Significant"

Eastern Shore Post

"Wallops Announces Completion of Sounding Rocket Campaign"

Launch

A NASA Terrier-Black Brant sounding rocket was launched from White Sands Missile Range, N.M., on October 15. The mission was to provide an underflight calibration for the Solar EUV Experiment on the NASA TIMED satellite. Dr. Thomas Woods, University of Colorado, was the principal investigator. Bill Payne, NASA Sounding Rocket Operations Contract, (NSROC), was the mission manager. The payload was recovered.

On the Road

Rich Rogers, NASA Aircraft Office, visited the 4th grade class at Salisbury Christian School, Salisbury, Md., recently and gave a presentation on NASA and weather tracking.

Cliff Leitao, NASA Policy and Business Relations Office spoke to first and third grade students at Centre Square Academy in Pennsylvania recently.

Wallops Duo Just Keep on Giving

Don Grant, Computer Sciences Corporation, (left), and Bill Hargrove, ManTech, reached donation milestones during the Red Cross Blood Drive at Wallops on October 14. Grant, who has been donating blood since 1943, gave his 104 pint, putting him in the 13 gallon club. Meanwhile, Hargrove reached the 12 gallon mark with the donation of his 96 pint of blood. Hargrove noted he began donating blood in 1976 as a New Year's resolution.



PAO Photos

Thirty-three usable units were obtained from 35 possible donors.

The supervisor of the Red Cross staff would like to extend a "thank you" to the Wallops employees that participated.

Safety Alerts

The Center receives information from the Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) concerning product recalls. In an effort to keep employees informed of recalls that may affect you at work and at home the following recalls have been issued by the Consumer Product Safety Commission along with web site links for retrieving further information.

New Federal Web Site for Agency Recalls:
<http://www.recalls.gov>

Recall on Laser Printers and AC Adapters:

CPSC, Lexmark International Inc.
<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prereel/prhtml04/04211.html>

IBM Recall on AC Adapters for Notebook Computers
<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prereel/prhtml04/04208.html>

Sun Fire V480 Systems Using a Specific Configuration may Unexpectedly Reset
<http://sunsolve.sun.com/search/document.do?assetkey=1-26-57597-1>

Thrift Savings Plan Open Season October 15 – December 31

Civil Service Employees Should Schedule Use of Annual Leave

Civil service employees that have a Use or Lose balance should start thinking now about planning to use the leave during the remaining months of 2004 and discuss their plan with supervisors.

For most civil service employees, the maximum carryover from one leave year to the next is 240 hours. Use or Lose Leave must be requested by you and approved or denied by your supervisor no later than November 26. This years leave year ends on January 8, 2005.

Last year, over 9,000 hours of Use or Lose Leave were forfeited by GSFC employees.

If you want to donate Use or Lose Leave keep in mind that you can only donate the amount of leave equal to the amount of hours you are scheduled to work through the end of the current leave year.

A current listing of leave recipients may be found at: <http://ohr.gsfc.nasa.gov/leave/home.htm>

Brown Bag Luncheon

"Leveraging Diversity for Best Performance"

with Chris Scolese
Center Deputy Director
Goddard Space Flight Center

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
October 28
Bldg. E-2, Williamsburg Room

Toastmasters Club to Form at Wallops

Bessie Johnson, District 18, Lt. Governor for Marketing of Toastmasters International, will be at Wallops on Monday, November 15, to provide handouts and information on forming a Toastmasters Club.

Toastmasters, a non-profit organization, affords members an opportunity to develop communication skills and speak in public without fear.

Sponsored by the Women of Wallops, Federal Women's Program, (WOW FWP). WOW FWP wants to provide the tools needed to enhance your career and personal life. For further information contact Terry Ewell at x1133.

Introductory Overhead Crane Operator Training

October 25 and 26
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Bldg. N-159, Room E-208

This course satisfies the requirements of the NASA Standard for Lifting Devices and Equipment, NASA-STD-8719.9, for the operation of electric, manual or air driven overhead cranes and hoists.

All civil service and contractor personnel who require an overhead crane operator license are urged to attend. To enroll, contact Bill Hargrove at x1797.

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